



ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

School of Psychology

Research Ethics Committee

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REGULATION OF THE RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 8. CONDUCTING RESEARCH WITHOUT PRIOR ETHICAL APPROVAL

1. The Research Ethics Committee (REC) does not usually examine research protocols that are considered of low or minimum risk. Low or minimum risk studies are those that meet ALL the following criteria:

- a. they concern adult, non-clinical populations, where participants can understand the research objectives and processes and can provide informed consent.
- b. participation is entirely voluntary and participants may withdraw at any time without justification.
- c. the research process is not expected to cause discomfort or to expose participants to risk or to conditions and activities that differ substantially from ordinary everyday conditions or activities.
- d. the research is compliant with the Regulations of the Research Ethics Committee REC (see article 7) and makes use of the REC's information and consent forms.

2. Researchers interested in carrying out studies of low or minimum risk (as described in point 1) may still submit their protocol for review by the REC, if they consider it necessary.

3. A study that meets all criteria of point 1 does not necessarily qualify for publication and therefore, researchers are encouraged in case of doubt as to whether the research falls into the "lower risk" category to seek the advice of the REC prior to conducting their study.